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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

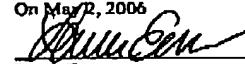
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CENTRAL FAX CENTERInventors: **Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNeil, Crooke**

MAY 02 2006

Serial No.: **10/660,122**Group Art Unit: **1637**Filed: **9/11/2003**Examiner: **Fredman, Jeffrey Norman**Title: **METHOD FOR RAPID DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF  
BIOAGENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND PRODUCT TESTING**

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On May 2, 2006

  
Laura Barnes

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 03/17/2006**

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

- Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 this paper.
- Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.
- Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.
- Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.